

*Agrius convolvuli* (L.). My only *Convolvulus* Hawk of the year was at Titchfield Haven reserve, 1 ♂ at m.v. light 19th-20th September, although other Hampshire workers recorded more. I wonder if the relative paucity of migrants along this coast may be attributed to a "sheltering" effect of the Isle of Wight?

*Acherontia atropos* (L.). A Death's-head Hawk reached me from Bridgemary where it was found on a lawn on 2nd-3rd October.

*Heliothis viriplaca* (Hufnagel). We took a pair of Marbled Clovers feeding on chalk flowers in hot sunshine. 1 ♀, Martin Down, 28th July; and 1 ♂, Leckford Estate, 30th July.

I extend my thanks to the gentleman whose help is mentioned in the text, and especially to David Appleton on whose field-work a large part of these notes is based.

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THE QUEEN OF SPAIN FRITILLARY (*ARGYNNIS LATHONIA* L.) AT BOURNEMOUTH. — I spotted this fritillary flying in from the sea and up the beach on 15th August, 1976 at 1.30 p.m. It flew in about three yards from Bournemouth pier and parallel with it. It was approximately 6-7 ft. up and dropped much lower and slowed down so that I just caught sight of the silvery blobs. Alas, I was without a net, and followed it two yards but lost sight of it as it went up to the promenade. From its flight direction I should think it came in from the south over the sea and via the Isle of Wight or Purbeck Island. The wind was easterly, surface sea breeze S.S.E. and temperature about 70°F. I have seen the species on the continent and have a short series from Austria. — A. H. DOBSON, 1 Halden Close, Great Woodley, Romsey, Hants.

THE HUMMING BIRD HAWKMOTH IN FEBRUARY 1977. — A Humming Bird Hawkmoth (*Macroglossum stellatarum* L.) was reported to me as having been closely observed hovering and feeding at blue hyacinths on 11th February, at Falmouth. The hyacinths were in a window-box. Presumably the moth had been hibernating, but it would be interesting to know if others may have been seen at such an unusual date. — Dr. F. H. N. SMITH, Turnstones, Perrancoombe, Perranporth, Cornwall.

ONCOCERA OBDUCTELLA (ZELLER) IN KENT. — This pretty Pyralid appears to be almost entirely restricted to the North Downs, where its larval foodplant marjoram (*Origanium vulgare*) grows, and even in known localities is not common. Until last year, my only two specimens came from a chalk pit near Burham, but during 1976 I recorded two further specimens from garden m.v. traps. The first record was from Aylesford (2½ miles S.W. of the Downs) on 16th July, the second from Newington, near Sittingbourne (5 miles N.E. of the Downs) on 23rd July. The very warm weather prevailing at the time may have been responsible for a dispersal flight of this normally local and rare insect. — P. J. JEWESS, 378 London Road, Aylesford, Kent.